Of the above, 79 men have put in a service of 2 years and less, 80 men over 2 years and up to 3 years, 58 over 3 years and up to 4 years, 3 over 4 years and up to 5 years, 4 over 5 years and up to 6 years and 1 over 6 years.

The services of 95 men were dispensed with owing to slackness of work and the others for irregular attendance, incompetency and misconduct.

(*j*) There is no rule laying down that the Superintendent should arrange for a good supply of stock work for the slack season.

Transfer of pieceworkers of the High Court section in the Government Press to the Current section.

* 443 Q.—Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the pieceworkers of the High Court section of the Press are transferred to the Current sections and made permanent as vacancies occur;

(*b*) if so, how many were so transferred during the years 1926, 1927 and 1928 and why;

(*c*) how many were made permanent during these years and what is their respective temporary service in the Current sections;

(*d*) whether the sanction of permanent strength of the piecework establishment was fixed at 325 in 1910 when there were 451 pieceworkers only; and

(*e*) whether there was a proposal to increase the number in the year 1919 and to put some more into the fixed establishment?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) & (*c*) The questions do not arise.

(*d*) The strength of the permanent piecework establishment was fixed at 325 in 1910, when the total number employed was 577.

(*e*) Yes.

Distribution of work among pieceworkers in the Government Press.

* 444 Q.—Mr. C. Venkatarangam Nayudu: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Superintendent, Government Press, has issued orders to the effect that the permanent pieceworkers should be provided with work before the temporary pieceworkers and whether the latter therefore hang on the mercy of the foreman for work; if so under whose authority this system is in vogue, how long and why;

(*b*) whether the pieceworkers in their memorials to the Government, dated 11th December 1919, asked for a turn distribution book being maintained in each composing section to ensure fair distribution of work and whether their request was complied with;

(*c*) whether the Superintendent, Mr. Gilbert, had reported that every precaution was being taken to avoid partiality in the distribution of work and that it was always open to the pieceworkers to report any unfair distribution;